



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Monthly Activities Report  
of the Air Quality Bureau

December, 1979

PLEASE RETURN

1. Highlights:

Anaconda Copper Company had 5 emergency episodes during December ranging from two pre-alerts at Highway Junction to 3 alerts at the same site.

An employee was hired to fill the vacant Environmental Specialist I position in Billings.

An employee was hired to fill the vacant Environmental Specialist III position in the Bureau in Helena.

2. Ambient Air Quality Network:

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION  
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

a. Standards Exceeded:

Other than the emergency episodes mentioned above, none in December.

b. Air Stagnation Advisories

None in December

c. Laboratory Status

Total Samples for Month	350
Total Determinations for month	2760

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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930 E Lyndale Ave.  
Helena, Montana 59601

3. Permits and Tax Credits:

a. Construction permits applied for

Exxon, USA, Billings, internal floating roof covers on refinery tank #32  
Hilde Construction, Hill County, crusher and hot plant  
American Chemet, East Helena, incinerator  
Duininck Bros. & Gilchrist, Dawson County, portable asphalt plant  
Exxon, USA, Billings, modifications to coke handling and storage facility  
Jeannie S Mine, Jefferson, County, placer mining

Construction Permits approved

Meyer Construction, Musselshell & Fergus Cos., gravel crusher  
Empire Sand & Gravel, Gallatin & Park Cos., gravel crusher  
Mortenson Construction, Liberty Co., gravel crusher

S  
614.71  
H2m  
December 1979



4. Variance Status:

Current

ASARCO, rule 16-2.14(1)-S1470(2), Sulfur Oxide emissions applicable to lead-zinc complex, final compliance due June 30, 1980

Berg Lumber, rule 16-2.14(1)-S1490, Open Burning, final compliance date June, 1980

The Anaconda Aluminum Company variance request from fluoride emissions which was heard at the November Board meeting will receive final action at the January 11-12 Board hearing.

The Anaconda Company application for variance from sulfur oxide emissions will be heard at the January 11-12 Board hearing.

5. Enforcement Actions:

- a. Citations - None in December
- b. Notice of Violation - Burlington Northern Inc., burning of railroad ties in violation of terms of variance.
- c. Notice of Violation & Order to Take Corrective Action - City of Helena, Sewage Treatment Plant in violation of rule 16-2.14(1)-S1480 (Odors, Control of)
- d. Court Actions - None in December

6. Tepee Burner and Open Burning:

A number of tepee burners were not operating during December because of temporary mill shutdowns caused by the economic situation.

No. of tepee burners presently in operation - 20

Open Burning Permits Issued:

Kalispell office	87	Sanders County	0
Cascade County	7	Yellowstone County	11
Lake County	41	Rest of State	164
Missoula County	18	Total	372

Total number of burning permits issued in 1979 - 15,835



7. Source Tests Performed:

None in December

8. Field Investigations:

Stauffer Chemical Co., Ramsay, inspection of kiln scrubbers and tap hole scrubbers, plant in compliance

9. Complaints:

ASARCO, East Helena, bad smog, plant starting up acid plant  
G & W Sugar, Billings, odor, investigation  
Refineries, Laurel and Billings, odor, investigation (8 complaints)  
Hager Chicken Ranch, Billings, odor  
American Chemet, East Helena, dust, inspection, no violation

10. Data Processing Services:

Ambient Data Summary - Data for November not available for report

Emission Inventory Status - Updated Missoula industries; worked with contractor on setting up new area source EIS system for computer

Prevention of Significant Deterioration - No activity

Modeling - No activity

11. Environmental Impact Statements

A. Other Agency Statements: Assisted DNR on the EIS for the Northern Border Pipeline

B. Agency Statements: The final EIS on ambient air quality standards will be printed in January, 1980

12. Status of Studies, Contracts and Reports:

MAPS EPA report is being written and will be sent in January.  
Hoerner-Waldorf report is being drafted; anticipated final due in July of 1981  
MAAQS EIS will be published in January

13. Schools and Training:

EPA Visibility Seminar, Helena  
EPA training course on Microscopic techniques, Research Triangle Park, NC  
Seminar on Word Processing, Helena



14. Public Hearings and Meetings:

a. Public Hearings - none in December

b. Meetings Attended:

EPA regarding DESPUR, Helena  
Smoke Management, Helena  
Quality Assurance, industry and state officials, Helena  
EPA, FHWA, MDOH - transportation, Helena  
Missoula Health & Planning, modeling procedures, Missoula  
Billings industries, siting of ambient monitors, Billings  
EPA Office Conference with Louisiana Pacific, Helena

c. Intra-staff meetings

Section meetings  
Bureau staff meetings

15. Public Information Requests:

Rules and Clean Air Act requests filled  
Several draft EIS on ambient standards sent out  
MAPS reports mailed to interested individuals

